

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Arthur James and Fern Elofson exchanged their wedding vows on June 3, 1936, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

*Whereas*, The newlywed couple of 70 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow, and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

*Whereas*, Arthur and Fern gave life and love to three daughters: Barbara, Mary and Beverly, who in turn blessed them with four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and,

*Whereas*, Arthur and Fern are avid bridge players who belonged to a group that met once a month and played together for over 50 years, plus many other card groups over the years; and,

*Whereas*, Arthur and Fern have been active in Augustana Lutheran Church, Sertoma and La Sertoma Club and many other civic organizations; and,

*Whereas*, Arthur and Fern reside at Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community in Sioux Falls, and will celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with all the good wishes fanfare and celebration such an event warrants:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2006, as

### *ARTHUR AND FERN JAMES DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.



*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:  
*Chris Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State